

AUXILIARY GUIDE NUMBER FOR JUNE

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'
MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840

“As a boy of about fifteen I read, carefully and prayerfully, the Book of Mormon, and there came into my heart an abiding and firm testimony of its divine authenticity. From that day to this, its wonderful teachings have been a comfort, a blessing and guide to me.”—PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT.

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Price One Penny

NEW BOOK OF MORMON EVIDENCES

ELDER J. M. SJODAHL

RECENT exploration of the French aviators, Captain Corniglion Molinier and Andrew Malraux, should be of special interest to students of the Book of Mormon.

M. Malraux, about a month ago, reported that he and his companion had flown over the ruins of an ancient city which they believed to be the remains of the once great capital of the Queen of Sheba. They gave the location as near the Persian Gulf, about one thousand miles southeast of Jerusalem.

The report dwells particularly on the fact that the Arabs living there are so hostile that a landing among them would be death to explorers, even if they could overcome the difficulties of procuring food and water. In fact, a later attempt to land near the ruins had to be abandoned on account of the murderous hostility of the natives.

This is, indeed, in my judgment, an instructive commentary on the account of Nephi of the journey of Lehi and his companions from Jerusalem to the coast of the ocean. For they must have passed through this territory.

Lehi travelled, as is well known, southward to the Red Sea, and then three days along the coast of that water to a valley which they called Lemuel, watered by the river Laman (1 Nephi 2: 8, 14).

When they were ready to continue their journey, they crossed the river and travelled four days south-southeast, to a place which they called Shazer (1 Nephi 16: 13). Then they travelled for “many days,” in the same direction, still following the coast of the Red Sea (1 Nephi 16: 17). Their camping place here is not mentioned by name (1 Nephi 16: 17). Again they travelled for “many days” to a place called Nahom. It was here that Ishmael died (1 Nephi 33: 34).

This may, possibly, have been in the vicinity of Medina, or Mekka. At any rate, here they changed their course to "nearly eastward" (1 Nephi 17: 1), and continued in this direction for eight years, until they came to a place by the ocean, which they called Bonntiful (1 Nephi 17: 5).

Now, Nephi in his account of this extraordinary journey tells us that the travellers suffered "much affliction, hunger, thirst," as well as fatigue. He notes specially that they had to eat "raw meat," not being permitted to make "much fire." The Lord would make the food palatable, and He would also be their "light" (1 Nephi 17: 2, 12, 13).

The obvious inference is that Lehi and his company were travelling through a hostile country, avoiding the common trade routes, and not betraying their whereabouts, not even by smoke from camp fires. Fire for sacrifices they probably had, according to the Mosaic law, but not fire for their own comfort. It is this detail of the Book of Mormon account of the sufferings of the colony of Lehi across the Arabian peninsula, that receives a new illustration in the report of the French explorers concerning the hostility of the Arabs, even now.

But why this hostility at the time of Lehi?

That is an interesting story of its own.

ACCORDING to the Old Testament accounts, the tribe of Simeon received its portion in the southern part of Palestine adjacent to the magnificent portion of Judah. The tribe, at the time of the entrance into Canaan, had been reduced from 59,300 able-bodied men at the time of the Exodus (Numbers 1: 23), to 22,000 on reaching Canaan (Numbers 24: 14). That, naturally, meant a corresponding loss of prestige. The cities and villages allotted to the tribe of Simeon, and occupied by that tribe until the time of David, are enumerated in 1 Chronicles 4: 24-38. Afterwards however, some of these cities are mentioned as belonging to Judah (1 Kings 19: 3), wherefore there must have been a serious clash between the two tribes. Later, some of the Simeonites emigrated to a place called "Gedor," which is said to be on "the east side of the valley," while another part, 500 strong, went to Mount Seir, where they took possession of the land of the Amalekites. The tribe of Simeon was thus scattered over a wide area of the Arabian peninsula. It is stated that they increased greatly (1 Chronicles 4: 38).

Some even are of the opinion that the chief and best features of the religion that bears the name of Mohammed were really originated by the Simeonites, who had left Palestine. They believe that it was some of the scattered members of this tribe who made Mekka a sacred place, in imitation of Jerusalem.

Be this as it may. But with this bit of history in mind, we can understand why Lehi could not travel openly, on the regular trade routes between India and Syria, or India and Egypt, and why they had to exercise the greatest precautions and shun the inhabited regions. A little band of Jews from Jerusalem would have been destroyed by the fugitive descendants of Simeon; that is, by Arabs, who always have entertained feelings of resentment and contempt for the Jews.

Another kind of evidence has recently been furnished by Dr. Byron Cummings, professor of Archæology at the University of

Arizona. The professor has recently returned from an expedition into Mexico, and, as a result of research there, he is convinced that the prehistoric Indians of Northern Chihuahua were related to the Pueblo Indians of Arizona and New Mexico.

According to an Associated Press dispatch, Dr. Cummings said that in almost every detail of building construction of the great pueblos on the mesas of Chihuahua were indications that the builders were related to the ancient inhabitants of Arizona and New Mexico. He also found a similarity in pottery.

For years, scientists have wondered whether the Northern Mexico Indians of the Archaic age and those of Arizona, known as the Gila people, were related. Dr. Cummings said he believes the two came from the same family, and, while they undoubtedly possessed some distinguishing tribal characteristics, they belonged to the same great pueblo family that swept up from Central Mexico thousands of years ago and spread over Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, Colorado, and possibly some other more northern states. Dr. Cummings led his party first to Colonia Dublan, Casa Grandes and Colonia Juarez and then southwestward into the Sierra Madre, to visit the pueblos, believed to have been built between 700 and 1200 years ago.

One great ruin was found near Casa Grandes. It covers much more ground than the Casa Grande of Arizona, Dr. Cummings said. A series of 15 great mounds may be seen, which "must have covered structures once at least four stories high with an immense wall," he said.

To students of the Book of Mormon the importance of correct knowledge of the connection between the occupants of the "Narrow Neck of Land" and those of the North and the South is apparent. It is this connection that scientific research is gradually establishing.

By and by the scientific evidence for the Book of Mormon will be as complete as that for the Bible, and more so. All the world will be made to realize that Joseph Smith was a true prophet of the Lord, and that the Book of Mormon is a great beacon light on the road to the redemption of mankind from all evils—financial, political and moral.—(*Deseret News*, April 21, 1934.)

NEW HEAD FOR SWEDISH MISSION

ANNOUNCEMENT has come from the First Presidency that Elder Hugo D. E. Peterson has been appointed president of the Swedish Mission. He will succeed President Gustave W. Forsberg, who has ably directed the Swedish Mission since his appointment in November of 1931.

Elder Peterson is a native of Sweden. This will be the third time he has returned to do mission work in the Scandinavian countries, and the second time he has presided over the Swedish Mission, having been president from 1923 to 1925. An active Church worker since his youth, he has, in recent years, been engaged in Church publication and historical work.

President Peterson, accompanied by Sister Peterson, expects to reach Sweden late in May, at which time President and Sister Forsberg will leave for their home in Salt Lake City.

AUXILIARY GUIDE FOR JUNE

PRIESTHOOD

First Night. Opening exercises. Local Priesthood activity report. Let us continue the weekly "ten tract" project. If every Priesthood holder in the mission distributed his ten last month, a total of 39,160 were circulated! The Mission Office has a fresh supply of the new pamphlet, *What Is Mormonism?* selling at twopence each (formerly sixpence). (Project: Place a copy of *What Is Mormonism?* in every newspaper office in your city, a copy of the Book of Mormon in every library.)

Two twelve-minute talks: First, "The Testimony of the Three Witnesses"; Second, "The Testimony of the Eight Witnesses." References: The Book of Mormon, *Articles of Faith*.

Second Night. Opening exercises. Report number of newspaper men contacted, number of libraries accepting copies of the Book of Mormon. Lesson: *Vitality of Mormonism*, Chapter sixteen.

Third Night. Opening exercises. Local Priesthood activity report. What is the progress of the month's projects? Two twelve-minute talks: First, "Was Joseph Smith Sent of God?" (Give your proofs.) Second, "The Modern Message of the Book of Mormon."

Fourth Night. Opening exercises. Local Priesthood activity report. Let us be exact in disposing of the ten-tracts-weekly scheme. From such acorns mighty oak trees grow! Lesson: *Vitality of Mormonism*, Chapter seventeen. (What is the vitality of Mormonism?)—G. HOMER DURHAM.

RELIEF SOCIETY

First Week. Opening exercises. Preliminary programme. Time will be devoted during the first part of the meeting to give the sisters opportunity to bear their testimony of the Gospel in relation to their Relief Society work. Lesson: Theology, Lesson IX, "The Law of Consecration." Objective: To show that the law of consecration, in its highest form, is a law of service and a law of mutual development.

Second Week. Opening exercises. Preliminary programme. A Talk given by one of the sisters: "The Value of Adversity." Work and Business. Lesson text: Teachers' Topic, Lesson IX, "Courage to Meet Life's Problems." Objective: To show that it is necessary to meet and to overcome the adversities of life in order to gain the greatest happiness.

Third Week. Opening exercises. Preliminary programme. Music: Invite someone to play selections from Grieg's "Peer Gynt Suite." Or some records may be played on a phonograph borrowed for the occasion. Lesson text: Life and Literature, Lesson IX, "Spiritual Voices in Modern Literature." Objective: To show how literature does help us to realize the spiritual values in life.

Fourth Week. Opening exercises. Preliminary programme, to be of your own choice. Lesson text: Social Service, Lesson IX, "Truth Restored!"—Centennial Tract No. 14 in book. Make this the grand finale of a two years' course of study on "Man's conduct which is most worth while."—RINTHA PRATT DOUGLAS.

GENEALOGICAL DEPARTMENT

Second Week. Lesson 11 in the Genealogical Leaflet, "The Worth and Location of Wills." Every genealogist knows that wills are a very

valuable source of information in doing research work. Generally speaking, a testator mentions all of his children, and in cases where his daughters are married he will almost certainly mention the names of their husbands. Thus if we are interested in the family of one of the husbands, we get the name and parentage of his wife, and other valuable information about her family, which might not be obtainable elsewhere. Many a difficult problem in identity has been solved by a signature, and there are generally three signatures of witnesses on each will as well as that of the testator.

The activity to-night will be to draw up a sample letter to a Parish Clerk or Vicar asking for an abstract of a certain birth, marriage or death of a certain ancestor. Continue work on the One Family Group Record Sheets.

Fourth Week. Lesson 12 in the Genealogical Leaflet. "Our Honourable Parentage." The scattering of Israel, God's covenant people, came about because of their disobedience to the commandments which they had received from heaven. But this scattering, which in itself was a punishment for their disobedience, has resulted in a blessing to all the nations of the earth. The blood of Israel has become fused with practically all of the nations upon the face of the earth. It is the blood of Israel that is at the foundation of the foremost modern nations.

The activity tonight will be the sixth assignment in the Book of Remembrance, "The Romance of Family History." (a) Write brief stories of the lives of any five of your direct ancestors, telling from what country they came, and selecting incidents showing the strength of their character, and how they proved faithful under all conditions. (b) Make a careful count and find out to how many of your progenitors you are connected by sealing. (The One Family Group Record Sheet will be very beneficial in determining this).—JOHN D. RIGGS.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

SACRAMENT GEM FOR JUNE

"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." (Revelations 3: 20.)

GOSPEL DOCTRINE DEPARTMENT

June 3rd. Concert Recitation: (See Lesson Leaflet—Doctrine and Covenants 50: 24.) Lesson 18, "The Law of the Lord to the Church." Objective: To show that the Lord gave to the Church in the beginning His laws for the government of its members, and that it is commanded that the repentant sinner shall be forgiven, but "he that sinneth and repenteth not shall be cast out."

This is a dispensation of restoration. Not only is the Priesthood and the complete organization of the Church with all of its covenants promised by ancient prophets restored, but even the laws by which the saints were governed in former times are renewed by proclamation from the heavens. These laws thus revealed, including the decalogue given to Moses, are again stated in the word of the Lord for the moral, temporal and spiritual guidance of the people of these latter times. Suggested questions:

1. Compare the law of the Ten Commandments with the law of the Lord to the Church given in Section 42. Which is more complete?
2. What is the meaning of the "law of consecration"?
3. What is the meaning of the promise, "They shall not taste of death"?
4. Why are the members of the Church, particularly the missionaries, commanded to set an example in righteous living?

June 10th. Lesson 19, "Preparation for the Coming of Christ—The New Jerusalem." Objective: A warning given of the near approach of the coming of Jesus Christ and of the end of the times of the Gentiles which commenced after the withdrawal of the Gospel from the Jews and the destruction of Jerusalem; also to show that the city New Jerusalem shall be built at the close of the times of the Gentiles and that the Jews are to be gathered again to Palestine, preparatory to the coming of Jesus Christ. Suggested questions:

1. What is the meaning of the expression "the kingdom of God"?
2. What signs of the near approach of the great day of the Lord are now before us?
3. Why were the people and city of Enoch translated? When shall they return?
4. What is meant by "the times of the Gentiles"? When did this period begin, and what is the sign given by the Lord when it was to be fulfilled?
5. What events must precede the second coming of Christ?

June 17th. Lesson 20, "The Gifts of the Spirit." Objective: To show that the Lord gives the Holy Ghost and the gifts of the Spirit to the faithful saints that they may know the truth and not be deceived by false spirits which are prevalent in the world.

Knowledge of the things of God is one of the greatest safeguards against the deception by false spirits, either of men or devils. "Whoso treasureth up my word, shall not be deceived," was the instruction the Saviour gave to His disciples. We understand the things of man by the spirit of man, and the things of God can be understood only by the Spirit of God. Suggested questions:

1. Why should our church services always be conducted so as to be guided by the inspiration of the hour?
2. What are the gifts of the Spirit? Why are they given? Who is entitled to receive them all?
3. What is the value of the "gift of discernment"?
4. Why must the Gospel be taught and received by the Spirit of truth—the Holy Ghost?

June 24th. Lesson 21, "A Mission to the Shakers—Zion to Flourish." Objective: Showing the attempt to bring the Shakers to repentance and to teach them the error of many of their doctrines, such as the belief that marriage is sinful; that there is the female nature in the Godhead; that Christ will appear as a woman or as a man travelling on the earth, and that women officiate in the Priesthood.

1. What was the origin of the sect of Shakers? What false and what true teaching were embodied in their doctrines?
2. What was the authoritative word of the Lord as to celibacy, communistic living, eating of meat, the times and signs of the Lord's second coming, and events to precede it?
3. What is meant by the vicarious atonement of Jesus Christ?
4. Who are some of the "Holy men that ye know not of"?
5. Why would celibacy defeat the plan of redemption?
6. Explain: "The blood of every beast will I require at your hands."

CHURCH HISTORY DEPARTMENT

June 3rd. Concert Recitation: (See Lesson Leaflet cover—Matthew 5: 11, 12.) "Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven; for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you." Lesson 19, "The True Church organized." Objective: To show that the organization of the Church required years of preparation, coming only at the command of God to those holding the proper authority.

June 10th. Lesson 20, "The New Church Grows." Objective: To show that as soon as the True Church was organized, God gave forth the signs which always follow the True Church of Christ.

June 17th. Lesson 21, "The First Arrest of the Prophet." Objective: To show that the Lord was mindful of his servant Joseph, even impressing the non-Mormon attorneys that they "go defend the Lord's anointed."

June 24th. A Quarterly Review. The key for scoring this review will be sent out from the Mission Office later.

PRIMARY (Sunday School Class)

June 3rd. Concert recitation: "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God." (Mark 10: 14). General Review. Any lesson which may need additional explanation, or that may have been missed, should be studied on this day.

June 10th. Lesson 96, "Jesus Blesses Little Children." Objective: To be gentle and kindhearted is to be like unto Christ. Texts: Matthew 18: 1-10; Mark 10: 13-16; Luke 9: 46-48; Sunday School Lesson Quarterly.

June 17th. Lesson 97, "Christ and the Five Thousand." Objective: Sacrifice brings great physical and spiritual blessings. Texts: Matthew 14: 13-21; John 6: 1-14; Mark 6: 30-44; Luke 9: 10-17; Sunday School Lesson Quarterly.

June 24th. Lesson 98, "A Visit with a Woman of Samaria." Objective: To be gentle and kindhearted is to be like unto Christ. Texts: John 4: 1-42, and Lesson Quarterly.—*The Instructor*.

It is suggested that the two-and-one-half minute talks be based upon the following topics:

1. The Organization of the Church—What it means to me.
2. "Let the little children come to me."

For singing practice during the month of June the following songs are suggested: "Lift up Your Heads, Ye Scattered Saints," page 17; and "We Here Approach Thy Table Lord," page 54 in the *Latter-day Saint Hymns*.—BRITISH MISSION SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD.

MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

SUMMER PROGRAMME

Regular indoor weekly classes of the Mutual Improvement Association will be discontinued for the summer holiday season immediately following the fourth week in June. This reminds us that this month we must conclude our study courses, complete our activity, so that when we say "inspired by the refining influences of Mormonism we will develop the gifts within us" for the last time on the last night, we may feel the joy of a happy year's work. We begin this month's work with *Branch Honour Day*, and hope that it will be a means of spreading the "refining influences."

The Mission Board feels to thank each and everyone who has so generously given of time and talents during the progress of 1933-34 season. We invite everyone to look forward to September, when a greater season's work, with new hopes and aspirations (and we hope, lots of M Men, Gleaner Girls, Scouts and Bee-Hives) will begin.

Mutuals may come, and slogans may go, but the Sunday Night Joint Programme goes on for ever. Watch the *Star* for the outlined programme each month; also—watch for a suggested outdoor activity project for all Mutual members.—G. HOMER DURHAM.

(Continued on page 314)

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR

THURSDAY, MAY 17, 1934

EDITORIAL

AUXILIARY ORGANIZATIONS IN THE BRITISH MISSION

THERE was published recently in the *Millennial Star*, and reproduced in part by the *Deseret News* and the *Relief Society Magazine*, a report of two sisters who made a tour of the European Missions in the interest of the auxiliary work of the Church. While this report would indicate that the sisters visited the European Missions, it made no mention of the British Mission, which is, of course, the mother of all the European Missions. Because these young ladies did not visit the British Mission at this time, some might get the impression that its auxiliaries are not completely organized.

For the benefit of those who may be interested in these organizations and their activities in the British Mission, attention is called to the fact that there are complete mission-wide boards, with president, counsellors and secretary of the Relief Society, Sunday School, Y.M.M.I.A., Y.L.M.I.A., Primary, and Genealogical Society.

These boards, with the exception of the president in each case, are all composed of local people, and recently the Y.L.M.I.A. Board, including the President, was reorganized with all British saints. In addition to the mission-wide organizations named above, we have sixteen districts in the British Mission, 80 branches, 68 Relief Societies, 71 Sunday Schools, 63 Y.M.M.I.A.'s, 62 Y.L.M.I.A.'s, 41 Primaries, and 43 Genealogical societies. Sixty of the branches are presided over by local people, and practically all of the auxiliaries are presided over by local persons whose homes and interests are British.

It is the aim of the British Mission President to have all local people presiding just as soon as they are prepared to do so. Not only on the mission-wide boards, but in every branch of the mission, is it desired that our local brothers and sisters shall carry the responsibility. The Mission Membership Statistical Report shows that at the beginning of this year there were 7,012 members, 3 High Priests, 1 Seventy, 290 Elders, 252 Priests, 125 Teachers, and 385 Deacons.

At the present time there are labouring here 80 missionaries from America, also 17 local missionaries. During the year just closed, records show that there were 97 copies of the Book of Mormon sold, 538 copies of the Book of Mormon were loaned, and 155 other standard works were distributed. Other books dis-

tributed totaled 647. Pamphlets distributed, 13,303, and tracts, 725,000.

District conferences are held semi-annually. The attendance at these conferences is exceptionally good. The saints love them and the visiting authorities are welcomed, and much appreciated. At these conferences, three general sessions are held on Sunday; and frequently on Saturday night preceding the conference a social with a suitable programme is carried out.

During 1933, auxiliary work has been stressed. We have undertaken to carry on the activities in each one of these, as carried on in the stakes of Zion. Relief Society organizations are functioning splendidly. The sisters seem to have caught the spirit and undertake to carry out suggested programmes at their various meetings. All auxiliaries are supplied with guides, which are published monthly in the *Millennial Star*, as well with regular outlined lessons which are sent from the mission office.

In the M.I.A.'s we are organizing, wherever possible, the various branches of the Y.M. and Y.L.M.I.A. work, viz., M Men, and Scouts, Bee-Hive, and Gleaners, aside from the regular adult class.

The same also applies to Primary Work. We have Sea Gull girls, Trail Builder boys, and Zion's Girls and Boys.

Genealogical work is proving itself exceptionally interesting in this old historic country. Many are engaged in its pursuit.

At the present time we have the Y.M. and Y.L.M.I.A. presidents and the Primary Supervisor of the mission visiting the various districts with a view of completely organizing the branches, supervising, aiding, and giving instructions helpful in every respect toward the building up of these various auxiliaries. The work thus far done is exceptionally satisfactory, and is the means of the presidencies and supervisor coming in closer touch with the work under their immediate direction. It is our aim as far as possible, to have this type of work carried to every district, that our local people may come directly in contact with capable and efficient missionaries who have been specially instructed to carry forward this great work.

These auxiliaries have an inspirational touch to the non-members, and are the means of bringing in strangers and those unfamiliar with the Latter-day Saints aims and objects. It is very noticeable that the Primary and the Neighbourhood Primary bring the Church in close touch with many parents who otherwise could not be reached. It is very apparent that public sentiment is changing concerning the aims and objects of the Mormon people. While the masses know but little of the truths of Mormonism, where we are able to meet the people personally there is less difficulty now in getting our true message before them than ever before. Practically every newspaper article that appears—and there are many of them—is exceedingly favourable. In fact, we have had as many as seven newspaper representatives attend a single district conference, and every article that has appeared has been exceptionally fair.

With capable men and women in the mission, the great latter-day message is going to be far-reaching, and with better places of worship being provided, and suitable accommodations for the advancement of auxiliary work, the work of the Lord as now revealed and established cannot help but grow and thrive in these great countries of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales.—
JAMES H. DOUGLAS.

THE FIFTH SKETCH of the *Star's* series, "Highlights in Local Leadership," will appear in the May 24th issue. Subject of the article will be Norman C. Dunn, president of the Handsworth branch.

MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

(Concluded from page 311)

SUNDAY EVENING JOINT PROGRAMME FOR JUNE

Opening Hymn: "Let Zion in her beauty rise."

Prayer: A Bee-Hive Girl.

Slogan Talk by an M Man: "Application of the 1933-34 Slogan."

Repetition of Slogan.

Song: "Put Your Shoulder to the Wheel."

Talk: By a Gleaner Girl (ages: 17-30); "The Gleaner Project."

Repetition of the Gleaner Guide in conclusion: "To be happy and useful I must be honest and sincere; Be strong in faith in myself, my fellowmen, and God; Be unselfish and helpful; Be dependable and responsible; Be loyal and grateful; Be courageous and hopeful; Be thrifty and ambitious; Be frank and tactful; Be possessed of good judgment; Be creative and resourceful; Be attractive and poised; Be humble and reverent."

Instrumental Music.

Address: "Whatever a man sow, that shall he also reap."

Closing Hymn: "Sowing."

Benediction: An M Man.

WEEKLY PROGRAMME

First Night. Branch Honour Day (for all departments). See special outlined programme in M. I. A. Letter.

ADULTS: *Religion A Way of Life*, Chapter 22.

Second Night. Opening exercises. Slogan talk: "The refining influence of activity lessons." Separate for class periods.

M MEN: Groups that have completed the study course review chapters 1-9 of *Youth and Life*, using the chapter-end questions. Recently organized groups continue with lessons outstanding.

GLEANERS: *Building A Life*, "Opportunity for spiritual development."

BEE-HIVES: Follow the Guides in the Handbook.

ACTIVITY PERIOD: Drama.

Third Night. Opening exercises. Instrumental music by a young man or woman. Replace the routine slogan talk with a recitation, bearing on the slogan if possible; preferably by a Bee-Hive girl.

ADULTS: Chapter 23 of the text.

M MEN: Review Chapters 10-13, and Chapters 17-20 of *Youth and Life*, or take lessons not previously covered.

GLEANERS: Discuss your gleanings from *Building A Life*.

BEE-HIVES: Follow the Guides in the Handbook.

ACTIVITY PERIOD: Drama.

Fourth Night. Opening exercises. This will be the last regular lesson night of the 1933-34 season. Although it is not the regular night

for the "monthly departmental programmes" we are having the M Men and Gleaners meet jointly tonight, as they missed this night because of Branch Honour Day coming on the first of the month. Let us get out our M. I. A. Song Books and give them a real "work-out" tonight. Perfect a new song. Slogan talks: "What the M. I. A. Slogan has meant to me," by the Y. L. M. I. A. President; and, "What the future M. I. A. Slogan will mean to me," by the Y. M. M. I. A. President.

ADULTS: Finish the text, *Religion A Way of Life*. (Is it?)

M MEN-GLEANER JOINT PROGRAMME: "The Appreciation of Life," *Youth and Life*, pages 132; *Gleaner Manual*, page 33.)

BEE-HIVES: Follow the Guides in the Handbook.

ACTIVITY PERIOD: We hope the play you prepared and its public performance were a huge success. May we hear from you for suggestions for next season's projects in activity? Soon?—BRITISH MISSION Y. M. M. I. A. and Y. L. M. I. A. BOARDS.—G. HOMER DURHAM.

M MEN

During the summer, M Men groups may arrange their own activities in accordance with their organization. We suggest cycling, hiking, tennis, swimming, or fishing as suitable. Meetings should be planned ahead; inter-branch games could be sponsored. A camping holiday would be ideal. It is your own department of the Y. M. M. I. A., so give of your best!—JOHN BLEAKLEY, Y. M. M. I. A. BOARD M MEN COMMITTEE.

BEE-HIVE DEPARTMENT

The following information, which will help to fill cell 698, was contributed by Miss Mary Holmes, who is not a member of the Church. She is one of the sixteen girls in Barrow-in-Furness, all non-members, who have taken up Bee-Hive work under the direction of Sister Doris Owens of the Liverpool District.

FURNESS ABBEY

Furness Abbey and the district thereabouts should not be missed on visits to the North of England. Lying between Dalton and Barrow, tucked away in the beautiful valley of "Deadly Nightshade," the Furness Abbey lies nestled. It is described as one of the most impressive ruins in the kingdom. No wonder we northerners are proud of our beautiful old Abbey.

Furness Abbey was founded by Stephen in 1127. Hundreds of years ago this stately pile of ruins was even more impressive than it is today. It was inhabited by the Cistercian Order of Monks who settled there in 1127 on the invitation of Stephen, Earl of Boulogne, to whom the Lordship of Furness had been given.

Time has made a great difference: Where the old monks came for seclusion from the world, there is now a railway. The Furness Abbey Station stands almost within the precincts of the monastery.

The Abbey was originally built of red sandstone. In the cylindrical columns of the nave one can clearly see that the Abbey Church is of the Norman period, while the choir and transepts display early English. The latter is an evidence that the monks have had to rebuild these historic walls in several places. The Chapter House, although in ruins, retains much of the sculptured loveliness for which it is famed, and is nestled in a decorative treatment of flowers and foliage of the "deadly nightshade" plant.

There were thirty-eight Abbots of Furness. The first was Evan de Abrincis, and the last Roger Pyle, who surrendered the Abbey in 1537 to the national church.

The Old Abbot House, where the Abbots of Furness had their stately lodgings, is now a thing of the past. The Furness Abbey Hotel stands on the spot that it used to consecrate. If those ecclesiastics were to return today they would find in that Gothic building something to reconcile them. In the so-called "Abbot's Room" in that hotel are the old and curious sculptures formerly in the Abbey.

The story of the destruction of the Abbey dates back to the time of Cromwell. When he and his soldiers were destroying the Abbeys in the vicinity of Furness Abbey, he couldn't find this expansive building owing to its position in the valley. The monks prayed they might not be found, and after the passing of the soldiers sang and rang the bells rejoicing. But this was their "death rattle," inasmuch as it attracted the attention of Cromwell and his men and they returned to devastate a cathedral consecrated to God. In visiting Furness Abbey one must pause in the solitude and remoteness of the surroundings and listen to the singing of the birds, and the whispering of the wind in the ruins to realize its past beauty and tranquility. The crumbling monument of the Abbey which played its part so well in the drama history.—MARY HOLMES, Barrow-in-Furness.

PRIMARY ASSOCIATION

As workers in the Primary Association, we can do nothing without the help of the Lord to guide and direct us in our work. Are you, as officers and teachers, holding a prayer meeting each week before your Association meeting? The following order of business should take place:—

1. Prayer.

2. Minutes of the last Primary Association session.

3. Brief discussion to find out if there is a teacher for each department, and if he or she is prepared to develop the truth of the lesson and has a specific plan for its application.

Each month a regular officers' and teachers' meeting should be held to discuss the problems of your organization and make definite plans for its progress. Co-operate with each other to make your organization one of the best in the Mission.

Are you, as teachers, happy in your work with the children? Is it not a glorious privilege to help shape the ideals and destiny of boys and girls who are going to be the future leaders of our Church in England? They are entitled to be guided by those who love them, who have faith in them, and who understand their needs. The details of the work and even the lesson material may be forgotten, but the teacher's influence, her attitude toward them and her work and the little words and thoughts dropped—sometimes in the most unexpected moments—these things will always remain and will influence them in their behaviour even in manhood and womanhood.

Let us all work hard to draw these children around us.—NETTIE L. WOODBURY.

ULSTER DISTRICT CONFERENCE

ALTHOUGH dark, foreboding rain clouds hung over Belfast May 6th, members, friends, and visiting missionaries met together and enjoyed themselves throughout three splendid sessions of conference.

After the opening exercises of the first session, the congregation separated into two departments, Sister Rintha Pratt Douglas taking charge of the Relief Society, and President

James H. Douglas presiding over the Priesthood meeting.

In the afternoon session the theme of the conference, "The Worth of Souls" was formally introduced by President DeHart. In developing the theme four other speakers addressed the audience. Brother Robert Collins spoke on the "Mission of the Master," Elder Ray L. Richards on "The Dignity of Man," Sister Ruby Gillian on

"Temporal Salvation," and Brother Joseph Ditty on "Spiritual Training," also the visiting elders spoke a few minutes, each bearing his testimony.

Immediately following the afternoon session the missionaries all went to the Custom House steps where a typical Irish street meeting was held. Each of the visiting elders had the opportunity of speaking a few minutes in spite of the rain, which fell during most of the meeting. A large crowd gathered to listen to the speakers, and to hear Elder Riggs play his accordian.

A large number of investigators, strangers and friends gathered to enjoy the evening session of the conference. As the opening speaker, Elder Albert P. Smoot spoke on the theme, "The Worth of Souls." His talk drew the attention of the audience to the beautiful origin of man, his purpose here on earth, and the glorious future and infinite possibilities that await him. Elder Riggs stressed the importance of Genealogical work. Sister Rintha Pratt Douglas gave a very inspiring talk, telling of the love and admiration she has for the English people and their country. She related many experiences where she has had the opportunity to rectify and set aright the ideas of many prominent people concerning the Mormon people and their beliefs. She showed how reasonable it was to believe that God would reveal Himself to a humble boy like Joseph Smith. She then pointed out some of the many recent archaeological discoveries that are piling up to

confirm the Book of Mormon, and concluded with a strong testimony of the Gospel and the divinity of the work of the Prophet Joseph Smith. President Douglas then delivered a sermon explaining how God revealed Himself, to the people anciently, and up until the end of the New Testament. He then showed how illogical it was to believe that God could not reveal Himself in this day and age. He said that our message to the world was that the heavens were not sealed, and that the everlasting Gospel was again upon the earth in its fullness.

During the conference the following people rendered musical numbers: Sister Hands and Sister Jean B. Cussans, a duet; Elder John D. Riggs, an accordian selection; Miss Annie Bamber, a solo; and Sister Mabel McCaughrin, a solo.

Mission authorities in attendance at the conference were President James H. Douglas of the British Mission; Sister Rintha Pratt Douglas, President of the Relief Societies of the British Mission; Elder John D. Riggs, Supervisor of Genealogy and Sunday School work in the British Mission. Visiting missionaries were President Leon Frehner of the Sheffield District; Elder Emerson J. Lindsay, also of the Sheffield District; Elder Dell R. Hollbrook of the Scottish District. The missionaries in the Ulster District are President William A. DeHart and Elders Albert P. Smoot, Ray L. Richards, and J. Arvil Marcroft.

ELDER RAY L. RICHARDS
Clerk of Conference

MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION MEMBERS!

PERIOD A OF THE

BRANCH BUILDING FUND COMPETITION

ENDS MAY 31ST!

HAS YOUR GROUP SUBMITTED ITS IDEAS?

FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Arrivals—The following elders arrived in England on May 2nd, and were assigned to labour as designated:

Elder Keith M. Macfarlane, of Cedar City, Utah, to the Manchester district.

Elder Gordon D. Priestley, of Salt Lake City, Utah, to the Sheffield district.

Elder Alva L. Thomas, of Pleasant Green, Utah, to the Norwich district.

Transfers—Elders Mylan L. Healy and Ira A. Newsome were transferred, on May 7th, from the Bristol to the Birmingham district.

Release—Elder Woodrow C. Williams, of the Scottish and Norwich districts, was honourably released on May 10th. He returned to America aboard the s.s. *Manhattan*, sailing on the same date.

Doings in the Districts: Liverpool—Birkenhead branch members held their semi-annual branch conference on April 15th. The theme, "Eternal Life," was well presented by local speakers and district authorities. During the services President Kent S. Bramwell dedicated the Branch hall as a place of worship for the honest in heart in Birkenhead. Members and friends in attendance numbered 26.

At the regular union meeting of the district's northern division, held at Nelson April 21st, Sister Janetta Broughton was set apart as divisional Sunday School supervisor. After the meeting, a lantern slide lecture was given by Elders Ward and Milne.

Under the direction of Branch President Fred Bradbury, saints of Burnley met in conference on April 22nd. The conference topic, "Ye shall know the Truth," was presented by local speakers and by the district authorities. Musical numbers completed the programme.

Bee-Hive girls of Barrow-in-Furness staged an unusually fine concert on April 19th at Princes Hall. Assisted by Olga Wilkinson

and Brother Wilkinson, Leslie and Margaret Pickthall and Joan Shaw, they presented a varied programme of songs, choruses, duets, a one-act play, and a short Gypsy operetta that delighted their large audience of seventy-five friends. Their finished performance reflected the long hours they had spent in preparation. They, with Sister Doris Owens, under whose direction the concert was produced, deserve signal credit for their splendid work.

Elder Kent S. Bramwell, retiring president of the district, was honoured at farewell socials in several of the branches prior to his departure.

At Wigan on April 25th, and at Liverpool on April 26th, saints and friends met to wish him well on his return journey. A special reporter for the *Liverpool Post* was present at the Liverpool social, and a report of the event appeared in that paper on the following day.

Officers of the Birkenhead M.I.A. entertained Elder Bramwell at a dinner party in the home of Sister Iris Hogg, on April 28th.

M.I.A. members of the Blackburn branch staged their Gold and Green Ball at the branch hall on April 28th. During the intermission a brief entertainment programme was presented to the assembled guests. Delicious refreshments were served during the evening to the seventy-five members and friends who came. The function was under the direction of Brother Eddie Preston, president of the Blackburn branch.

The theme of the Blackburn branch conference, held on April 29th, was "Light has come into the World." Speakers were Brothers Eddie Preston, Walter Thompson, Henry Eccles, and President Joseph F. Smith, Jr. An open-air meeting following the services completed the day.

Saints and friends in the Preston branch met in conference on May 6th. Local and visiting members and district authorities were speakers of the day. Services were

under the direction of Brother J. W. Brown.

Leeds—On April 21st, the Halifax Branch Sunday School sponsored a concert and supper to raise funds for the annual children's Whitsuntide treat. As both an entertainment and a means to raise the desired funds, the evening was highly successful.

The M. I. A. open night, May 1st, in the Halifax branch, was a profitable one. As the evening's project, M. I. A. members devoted their efforts to renovating and rebinding the branch hymn books, which were in a dilapidated state of repair. The task finished, supper was served to the workers, and all felt the evening was well spent.

Manchester — At a baptismal service held in the Manchester Chapel on April 14th, Alma Stubbs Jackson and Eileen Joyce Nelson were baptized by Elder Harold Sycamore. Confirmation followed.

A district competition in the Retold Story and M. I. A. was the Chorus feature of the union meeting held in the Manchester branch on April 28th. Honours went to the Rochdale branch for the chorus, "Carry On," and to Sister C. M. Pullan for her Retold Story.

Manchester branch conference was held on April 29th, in conjunction with the mission-wide genealogical evening. Brothers Pardoe and B. T. Norman were the principal speakers.

Norwich—The Lowestoft branch has added three new organizations to its auxiliary groups. On April 5th, fourteen young men, under the leadership of Brother Leslie Coleby, met to form an M Men club. Since their organization, they have sponsored two dances. Both have been successful, and have given the young men a splendid opportunity to tell their friends of the M Men and Gleaner organizations in the branch.

To its classes, the Primary of the branch has added a Trail Builders and a Blue Bird organization, and have found them to be popular among the Primary children.

The combined conference of the Primary and Sunday School of the

Lowestoft Branch was held on April 15th, in the branch chapel. The children's programme of song, verse and prose, included original talks by several scholars under twelve years of age.

The new recreation hall of the Lowestoft branch was the scene of a social evening, April 30th. The affair was sponsored by the Bee-Hive girls of the branch, under the direction of Sister May Coleby, and had for its primary purpose the raising of funds for the activities of the Bee-Hive group.

Saints and friends met in the Norwich branch, May 3rd, at a farewell social in honour of Elder Woodrow C. Williams. A musical programme and games supplied the evening's entertainment. During the evening, Branch President Alfred Burrell presented to Elder Williams a small gift from the saints of the Norwich branch.

Nottingham—On April 21st, the district sponsored a unique concert, District Drama Night. Under the direction of Elder Walter K. Barton, four branches presented one-act plays to an assembly of saints and friends from all over the district. The Derby branch presented, "Love among the Tea Leaves." Nottingham branch followed with "Spring Cleaning." After an interval of community singing, Eastwood staged "Under New Management." And then Mansfield brought the evening to an end with a finished interpretation of "The Stepmother."

The plays were not produced as entries in a competition, but as contributions to a gala drama night, an entertainment feast. The excellence of the event was a tribute to the developing powers of the M.I.A. Drama project, under which the players all received their training.

Branch conference in Eastwood was held April 22nd. Local members and district authorities addressed the conference on the early life of the Prophet Joseph Smith and the coming forth of the Book of Mormon. Musical numbers were rendered by the Sunday School choir, a Bee-Hive Girl singing group, and Sister Dorothy Blythe of the Mansfield Branch.

The Sunday service of the Derby branch on April 22nd was devoted to a Relief Society conference, under the direction of Relief Society President Elizabeth Bradley. The sisters discussed the inspirational lives of the presidents of the Church, past and present, as the theme of the conference programme.

A cottage meeting was held May 2nd at the home of Sister Frances Buxton of the Eastwood Branch. The meeting was under the direction of President Walter K. Barton. "Why Mormonism?" was the topic of the evening. A lively discussion followed, and the evening was one of spiritual feasting.

Sheffield—Saints in Sheffield held their spring conference on Sunday, April 8th. The theme of the day was "The Restoration of the Gospel." Auxiliary presidents were the speakers in the afternoon session, and the district authorities addressed the evening meeting. Branch President George H. Bailey was in charge of the services.

"1933 Commemoration Dance," planned to celebrate the raising of £100 during 1933 towards the erec-

tion of a new branch chapel, was held in Sheffield on April 14th. The hall was beautifully decorated for the occasion, and in a fitting ceremony, symbolic of the noteworthy achievement, tribute was paid to those who had been instrumental in its accomplishment. A fine report of the affair appeared in one of the leading Sheffield papers on the following day. The dance was planned by the building and missionary fund committee under the direction of Sister Dora Bargh.

On April 19th, a baptismal service was held in the Sheffield Chapel. Doreen Fillingham was baptized by President Leon Frehner and confirmed by Elder James R. Bargh. John Snow was baptized by Branch President Joseph T. Quinney and confirmed by local Elder John I. Holton, Jr.

Personal—To Sister Mary Capperauld, formerly Mary Thompson, of the Glasgow Branch, was born a son on April 24th. Sister Capperauld recently returned with her husband from California, where they lived for several years.

DEATHS

LAIRD—Sister Elizabeth Carson Laird, of the Airdrie Branch, for many years its Relief Society president, died April 11th, after an illness of several months. Funeral services were held at her home under the direction of Brother Thomas Graham. The grave was dedicated by Elder James Thomas Pryde.

MURRELL—Sister Sarah Murrell, of the North London Branch, a member of the Church for the past 18 years, died on April 21st. Funeral services were held on April 27th under the direction of President Bart L. Christensen. Interment was in the Tottenham Cemetery.

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